ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING ELECTIONS.

Chairman : I have to make an announcement regarding the elections to be held today.

You will be aware that the Government have reconstituted the Economic Development Board on the lines recommended by the Legislature. The reconstituted Board is to consist of 15 members of whom 10 are non-officials. The nomination of these non-officials will be made by Government in consultation with both the Houses of the Legislature, the Assembly selecting six and this House selecting four members. The selection can be made not only from among the members of the House, but also from among such experts from outside as in the opinion of the House will strengthen the Board and give it the benefit of expert advice.

There is also another election to be held, *viz.*, of a member to the Transport Advisory Committee *vice* Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai.

The elections will be held today in the usual manner, after the regular business of the House is over, and will be presided over by Mr. M. Govindan.

Mr. James Fletcher : May I suggest that the election be conducted tomorrow after the business is over ?

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai : If the elections are held today, there will be an opportunity to make an announcement tomorrow. But if they are held tomorrow, then there will be no opportunity to make an announcement.

Chairman : The elections will be held today after the work is over.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS.

DEMAND IV—FOREST.

Rao Bahadur T. V. Venkataswara Aiyar: Sir, I move that a sum of Rs. 1,957 be granted under Demand IV—Forest—for making provision for the Bee Expert and his staff transferred from the Agricultural Department. At the beginning of this year, in consultation with the Director of Agriculture, the Forest Department submitted a proposal to Government for the manufacture of clean and pure honey as the admixture of larva essence which is now being put on the market as honey from the forest is not pure honey. This scheme was sanctioned by Government and the required funds provided under the Department of Agriculture. When the Bee Expert actually started working it was found that it will be more convenient and efficient to place him directly under the control of the Conservator of Forests. Therefore, from the 2nd of October last he has been placed under the control of the Conservator. His pay

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[Rao Bahadur T. V. Venkataswara Aiyar.]

and allowance have to be met from the Forest Department. According to the technical rules for the grant of money, it was pointed out that the funds sanctioned for the Department of Agriculture could not be transferred to the Forest Department. It is for this reason that I come before the House for this supplementary grant. This amount was sanctioned for the Department of Agriculture in the last Budget. And the amount now being asked for has been surrendered by the Department of Agriculture. It has to be sanctioned formally for the Forest Department. No extra expenditure is involved. I request the House to sanction the demand.

Mr. V. Sankara Menon: Is the Bee Expert doing his work now?

Rao Bahadur T. V. Venkataswara Aiyar: Yes.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: May I ask whether the Bee Expert's work is assessed on commercial basis or on the basis of propaganda value?

Rao Bahadur T. V. Venkataswara Aiyar: It is assessed on a commercial basis. It is proposed to clarify the forest honey and market it.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: So, is he giving up propaganda work hereafter?

Rao Bahadur T. V. Venkataswara Aiyar: He is not giving up propaganda work. He will be doing that also.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: Will the area be confined to the Forests? (*Laughter.*)

Rao Bahadur T. V. Venkataswara Aiyar: Yes.

The motion was carried.

DEMAND X—CLAY REFINING AND PORCELAIN FACTORY.

Rajyasevapravina G. Parameswaran Pillai: Sir, I beg to move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 58,990 under Demand X—Clay Refining and Porcelain Factory. A capital outlay of Rs. 1,34,300 was granted by the House for 1117 on account of this demand, of which Rs. 1 lakh has been devoted by the P. W. D. for the construction of additional washing plant and dry chamber and other works connected with this factory. Nevertheless a sum of Rs. 16,000 is further required for this purpose. Owing to additional demand for manufactured goods from this factory for war purposes certain machinery and other items had also to be purchased to the value of Rs. 42,990. Thus a total sum of Rs. 58,990 is now required and I request the House to grant this supplementary demand.

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